

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

.../GB2004/004141

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N15/06 G01N1/22 G01N21/53 G01N21/85

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 061 356 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 20 December 2000 (2000-12-20)	1,2,4,7, 9,17-20, 22,24-26 3,5,13, 14,16
Y	column 1, line 3 - column 1, line 18 column 2, line 40 - column 3, line 47 column 4, line 21 - column 4, line 25 column 4, line 39 - column 4, line 56 figures 1-3 ----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/12/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	<p>US 5 271 264 A (CHANAYEM STEVE G) 21 December 1993 (1993-12-21)</p> <p>column 1, line 52 - column 1, line 59 column 2, line 63 - column 3, line 9 column 3, line 35 - column 3, line 42 column 3, line 55 - column 3, line 58 column 4, line 9 - column 4, line 34 figures 1-4</p>	<p>1,2,4, 17-19, 21,22, 24,27</p>
X	<p>EP 0 618 440 A (IBM) 5 October 1994 (1994-10-05)</p> <p>column 1, line 3 - column 1, line 41 column 3, line 67 - column 4, line 30 column 5, line 25 - column 5, line 35 column 6, line 11 - column 6, line 21 column 8, line 15 - column 8, line 29 column 9, line 7 - column 9, line 14 column 9, line 31 - column 9, line 57 figures 2,3,5</p>	<p>1,10-12, 22-24, 28-30</p>
X	<p>WO 99/64841 A (ROSE THOMAS H) 16 December 1999 (1999-12-16) abstract page 7, line 23 - page 9, line 17 page 11, line 14 - page 11, line 18 page 17, line 9 - page 18, line 13 figures 1,5</p>	<p>1,15,22, 29</p>
X A	<p>US 5 471 299 A (HIRST EDWIN ET AL) 28 November 1995 (1995-11-28)</p> <p>column 5, line 34 - column 5, line 36 column 5, line 49 - column 6, line 61</p>	<p>6,8 22,23</p>
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Y	<p>US 2001/016430 A1 (NAKANO HIROYUKI ET AL) 23 August 2001 (2001-08-23) paragraph '0062! - paragraph '0066! paragraph '0089! paragraph '0207!</p>	<p>13,14,16</p>

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